**Plans to Boost Inland Waterways System**

244. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state what are the plans to give a boost to the inland waterways system and coastline shipping?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): A total outlay of Rs. 225.73 crores has been earmarked for the development of inland water transport in the Seventh Five-Year Plan of which Rs. 155.00 crores is in the Central Sector and Rs. 70.73 crores is in the Plan of the States and Union Territories. The Central Schemes mainly include investment in Central Inland Water Transport Corporation for acquisition of additional fleet and modernisation of its Rajabagan Dockyard, research and developmental schemes, development of National Waterways, hydrographic surveys of important waterways, acquisition of survey launches and equipments, grant of interest subsidy to IWT entrepreneurs, provision of terminal facilities, technical studies, navigational aids and dredging of waterways etc.

In the State Sector provision has been made for improvement of waterways to make them useful for inland navigation.

For development, maintenance and management of the National Waterways, an Inland Waterways Authority of India has also been set up. This Authority will also act as a Research and Development Agency for Shipping and Navigation on inland waterways.

As regards coastline shipping, coordination of coastal operation, modernisation of coastal fleet, improvement of port facilities, rationalisation of custom and port procedure for fixation/revision of freight rates etc. are some of the steps being taken to develop coastal shipping. Besides, specific proposals to start cargo-passenger service on certain routes have also been suggested by some shipping companies.

**Phasing out of old Telecommunications Switching system**

245. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the time by when Government propose to phase out the old telecom technology in the strowger and cross-bar switching systems in the country;

(b) by when India is likely to manufacture totally indigenous digital switching system; and

(c) what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Switching equipment is usually replaced after it has served its useful life or it is totally worn out. As a consequence full phasing out of the strowger equipment will occur sometime after the year 2000. In respect of crossbar equipment, it is likely to be in production even in 90's and, therefore, phasing out of this equipment from the network will be much later.

(b) and (c) While indigenously designed small sized digital rural automatic exchanges are expected to be productionised in 1987-88, the larger sized equipment is still under development.

**Schools at Vasant Vihar, New Delhi**

246. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to open a Primary/Secondary School at Vasant Vihar Government Colony, New Delhi where allotment of Government accommodation has been made recently;

(b) whether Government have received any representations from the allottees/departments in this regard; and

(c) if so, by when a primary/Secondary School is likely to be opened there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) Delhi Administration has received representations to open a Primary/Secondary School at Vasant Vihar Government Colony, New Delhi. They are conducting a survey in this regard and if the need is established, a new upper primary school will be opened from the next session i.e. 1987-88.

**Grant of Selection Grade to Attendants of National Gallery of Modern Art**

247. SHRI KAPIL VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 2935 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 3rd December, 1986 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in pursuance of orders dated the 22nd May, 1986, selection grade posts in respect of Gallery Attendants of the National Gallery of Modern Art, New Delhi have so far not been filled in; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and by when these orders are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The implementation of the orders issued for Selected Grade to the Group D Employees from 1.8.1976 also involves applications of benefits to the employees who were in service on 1.8.76 and have since retired/expired. In view of the retrospective application of the orders, details are under examination and orders are expected to be issued shortly.

**Non-Enforcement of Postal Amendment Law By Andhra Government**

248. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKIRSHNA MAZUMDER

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appearing in a section of the press that the Government of Andhra Pradesh has since announced that it would not enforce the Postal Amendment Law; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir. But we have not received any official communication to that effect from the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

(b) Does not arise in view of the answer at 'A'. However, the subject matter falls entirely within the purview of the administrative jurisdiction of the Govt. of India. Insofar as Section 26 is concerned, it is entirely discretionary in character and it is up to the State Govt. to use the provisions of this Section or not.

**Programme Entitled one-Rupee-Revolution by NCERT**

249. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that N.C.E.R.T. (National Council of Educational Research and Training) has launched a programme entitled one-rupee-revolution;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and